Atty. Dkt. No. 016891-0858

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Yoshitaka UEDA

Title: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

Appl. No.: 10/627,608

Filing Date: 07/28/2003

Examiner: N. W. Ha

Art Unit: 2814

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(c), before the mailing date of either a final action under 37 CFR §1.113, a notice of allowance under 37 CFR §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

As a statement of relevance, a translation of a portion of a Japanese Office Action that issued August 24, 2004 with respect to a counterpart Japanese patent application is provided below.

Claims 1-3, 7-10

References 1-3

Remarks

It is a know issue, as References 1-3 describe, that an NC terminal can be a cause of electrostatic discharge for the adjacent terminal. Short-circuiting for equipotential and grounding are known measures that are generally taken to prevent electrostatic discharge between two electrodes in semiconductor device field.

Claims 5-6, 12-17

References 1-3

Remarks

It is easy for a person skilled in the art to conceive employing general pattern formation technology of the semiconductor package manufacture as short-circuiting means.

Claims 4 and 11

References 1-3

Remarks

It is known in the art, as References 1-3 show, to employ electrostatic protective circuit.

Index of Cited References

1. JP 11-163247

2. JP 61-199651

3. JP 2002-198466

This Record of Prior Art Search Results does not constitute a reason for rejection.

Prior Art Literature

JP 2001-348305
JP 01-238148
JP 02-119171

An English translation of the foreign-language documents is not readily available. However, the absence of such translation does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted foreign language documents (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP §609). English language abstracts are attached.

Applicant respectfully requests that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

STATEMENT

The undersigned hereby states in accordance with 37 CFR §1.704(d) that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

Applicant's statements regarding the Japanese Office Action are based on a partial translation that Applicant's representative obtained. These statements should in no way be considered as an agreement by Applicant with, or an admission of, what is asserted in the Japanese Office Action.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 23, 2004

By Thomas S. Scholl Reg. No. 43,438

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MODIFIED PTO/SB/08 (08-00)
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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Date Submitted: September 23, 2004

(use as many sheets as necessary)

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Complete if Known	
Application Number	10/627,608
Filing Date	07/28/2003
First Named Inventor	Yoshitaka UEDA
Group Art Unit	2814
Examiner Name	N. W. Ha
Attorney Docket Number	016891-0858

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	U.S. Patent Document Number	U.S. Patent Document Kind Code[2] (*if known*)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	Foreign Patent Document Office[3]	Number[4]	Kind Code[5] (*if known*)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T[6]
	C1	JP	2002-198466		NEC IC MICROCOMPUTER SYSTEMS LTD.	07-12-2002		A
	C2	JP	2001-348305		TOSHIBA KK	12-26-2001		A
	C3	JP	11-163247		HITACHI LTD.	06-18-1999		A
	C4	JP	2-119171		HITACHI LTD.	05-07-1990		A
	C5	JP	1-238148		FUJI ELECTRIC CO. LTD.	09-22-1989		A
	C6	JP	1-199651		FUJITSU LTD.	09-04-1986		A

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T[6]

Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

[1] Unique citation designation number. [2]See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. [3]Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). [4]For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. [5]Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. [6]Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.